

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/696,627

Examiner

Nathan Hillery

Applicant(s)

KNOTZ ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment, 4/17/07.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-14,16-25 and 27-31.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/18/07.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Doug Hutton
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Andrew Smith on 6/18/07.

The application has been amended as follows:

1. (currently amended) An integrated and modular content and format handling publishing system comprising a computer network including various sites connected by communication links, and various corresponding storage devices having computer-readable code embodied therein, including the following program components:

- (a) a content handling program component, comprising
 - (i) a content definition editor that receives a content definition including one or more data types and one or more parameters for each data type, and being based on a list of content item properties having assigned IDs, positions and types and being generated for each property by selecting a property type and a property action;
 - (ii) a data structure generator that produces a content data structure, the content data structure corresponding to the content definition;
 - (iii) a content item editor that receives content item information, handles each said content item property in said content item property list, and provides the content item information for storage in the content data structure, and in connection with a same content item, the content definition editor and the content item editor are configured for implementation on a display on content definition and content editor screens, respectively, in separate network browser windows;

(b) a format handling program component, comprising a template editor that generates formatting information for the content item information and stores the formatting information separately from the content item information;

(c) a publisher program component that generates a formatted output based on a combination of the separately stored content item information and formatting information; and

~~(d) a workflow system component for managing created content items for routing them each to one or more of various sources, the workflow system itself being managed by one or more enumeration properties, workflow data or content searches in a manner depending on said content definition, said content item information, a choice made by a content creator, or by rules, or combinations thereof~~

a publication scheduler that controls when a particular content item is published by the publisher according to a set of predetermined publication criteria; and

wherein the formatting information comprises extensible mark-up language (XML) fragments.

13. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising a workflow system component for managing created content items for routing them each to one or more of various sources, the workflow system itself being managed by one or more enumeration properties, workflow data or content searches in a manner depending on said content definition, said content item information, a choice made by a content creator, or by rules ~~a publication scheduler that controls when a particular content item is published by the publisher according to a set of predetermined publication criteria.~~

Cancel claim 15.

18. (currently amended) A method of publishing formatted content including separately handling and formatting the content using a computer network including

various sites connected by communication links, and various corresponding storage devices having computer-readable code embodied therein, the method comprising:

- (a) providing a content handling program component for
 - (i) providing content definition parameters to a content definition editor that are based on a list of content item properties having assigned IDs, positions and types and are generated for each property by selecting a property type and a property action;
 - (ii) producing a content data structure in a database corresponding to the content definition parameters;
 - (iii) providing content item information to the content data structure, the content item information representing an instance of content that corresponds to the content definition parameters, and in connection with a same content item, the content definition parameters and the content item information are viewable on a display on content definition and content editor screens, respectively, in separate network browser windows; and
 - (iv) handling each said content item property in said content item property list;
- (b) providing a format handling program component for
 - (iv) generating and storing formatting information separately from the content item information;
- (c) providing a publisher program component for
 - (v) consolidating multiple portions of content item information that are respectively stored in multiple databases; and
 - (vi) publishing the content item information by combining the separately stored content item information and formatting information so as to present the content item information in a formatted manner; and
- (d) providing a workflow system component for
 - (vii) managing created content items for routing them each to one or more of various sources, the workflow system itself being managed by one or more of enumeration properties, workflow data or content searches in a manner depending on

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at least one of said content definition, said content item information, a choice made by a content creator, and rules, and ~~or combinations thereof~~

(e) providing a publication scheduler for controlling when a particular content item is published by the publisher according to a set of predetermined publication criteria.

24. (currently amended) A method of operating an integrated and modular content and format handling publishing system using a computer network including various sites connected by communication links, and various corresponding storage devices having computer-readable code embodied therein, the method comprising:

(a) handling content with a content handling program component, comprising:

(i) providing content definition information that is based on a list of content item properties having assigned IDs, positions and types and are generated for each property by selecting a property type and a property action, and comprises content item names and content item data types, to a tabular form, and automatically producing a content data structure based on the content definition information,

(ii) entering content item information to an input form that corresponds to the content definition information,

(iii) submitting the content item information to a database, and in connection with a same content item, the content definition information and the content item information are viewable on a display on content definition and content editor screens, respectively, in separate network browser windows, and

(iv) handling each said content item property in said content item property list;

(b) handling formatting with a format handling program component, comprising generating formatting information for the content item information and storing the formatting information separately from the content item information, and

(c) with a publisher program component, publishing the content item information to an electronic medium by combining the separately stored content item information and content format information; and

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~~(d) a workflow system component for managing created content items for routing them each to one or more of various sources, the workflow system itself being managed by one or more enumeration properties, workflow data or content searches in a manner depending on said content definition, said content item information, a choice made by a content creator, or by rules, or combinations thereof~~

with a publication scheduler, controlling when a particular content item is published by the publisher according to a set of predetermined publication criteria; and wherein the formatting information comprises extensible mark-up language (XML) fragments.

27. (currently amended) One or more processor readable storage devices having processor readable code embodied thereon, said processor readable code for programming one or more processors to perform a method of operating an integrated and modular content and format handling publishing, the method comprising:

(a) handling content with a content handling program component, comprising:

(i) providing content definition information that are based on a list of content item properties having assigned IDs, positions and types and are generated for each property by selecting a property type and a property action, and comprises content item names and content item data types, to a tabular form, and automatically producing a content data structure based on the content definition information,

(ii) entering content item information to an input form that corresponds to the content definition information,

(iii) submitting the content item information to a database, and in connection with a same content item, the content definition information and the content item information are viewable on a display on content definition and content editor screens, respectively, in separate network browser windows, and

(iv) handling each said content item property in said content item property list; and

(b) with a format handling program component, generating content format information for the content item information and storing the content format information separately from the content item information, and

(c) with a publisher program component, publishing the content item information to an electronic medium by combining the content item information with the content format information; and

(d) with a workflow system component, managing created content items for routing them each to one or more of various sources, the workflow system itself being managed by one or more of enumeration properties, workflow data or content searches in a manner depending on at least one of said content definition, said content item information, a choice made by a content creator, and rules, and ~~or combinations thereof~~

(e) with a publication scheduler, controlling when a particular content item is published by the publisher according to a set of predetermined publication criteria.

29. (new) The method of claim 24, further comprising providing a workflow system component for managing created content items for routing them each to one or more of various sources, the workflow system itself being managed by one or more of enumeration properties, workflow data or content searches in a manner depending on at least one of said content definition, said content item information, and a choice made by a content creator, or by rules.

30. (new) The method of claim 18, wherein the formatting information comprises extensible mark-up language (XML) fragments.

31. (new) The one or more storage device of claim 27, wherein the formatting information comprises extensible mark-up language (XML) fragments.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record fails to explicitly teach and/or render obvious the limitations of claim 1 when taken as a whole.

3. Specifically regarding claim 1, the prior art does not teach the specifics of the publication scheduler in combination with the other components in the claim. Further, the fact that the formatting information is XML fragments renders the claim not only novel but unobvious as well.

4. Regarding claim 18, the prior art does not teach the specifics of the publication scheduler and workflow system component in combination with the other recited components in the claim. These combinations of features render the claim novel and unobvious over the prior art.

5. Claims 3 – 14, 16, 17, 19 – 25 and 27 – 31 either depend from or are substantially similar to a claim containing allowable subject matter and are therefore also allowable for similar reasons.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan Hillery whose telephone number is (571) 272-4091. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F, 10:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on (571) 272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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